

120 PSYCHOLOGICAL DATA :
RECORDS

be intensely vivid,' as spasms recur during the day. She frequently wakes in the night frantic and screaming because she fancies there are animals about the room, and in her bed. All my efforts to reassure and pacify her are useless for a time—and when finally she ceases screaming, she keeps clutching at me, and will not go back in her bed. The trouble commenced about last August. She was sleeping in a cot in my bedroom. When I ran up to see what was wrong, she was trying to climb out and seemed terror-stricken. Nothing would induce her to go back in the cot—she said 'An animal bite her feet/ although she has always been very fond of cats and dogs and cannot pass one without wanting to love it, in fact she shows great interest in all animals.' 18. "I should be so much obliged if you could give me any advice about the one peculiarity of my elder child. She is now two-and-three-quarters and a thoroughly healthy and happy small person. The whole trouble is nothing very vast. When she was a baby I stopped her sucking her thumb by pinning a light shawl round her shoulders and she soon stopped it. Later, though, she began to suck her tongue. I can't quite describe how she does it, sticks it out a bit and sucks it. The effect is not pretty ! And after that when she could walk she insisted on having one or two small coloured blankets with her and waving one about in front of her face while she sucked her tongue and now in any trouble she runs for it. She does not actually suck it—holds it near her face and sucks her tongue. I suppose I ought to be thankful she does not suck the wool! She will not go to sleep without it, either for her morning rest or at night. Don't you think the beginning of it all was my being too fussy over thumb-sucking ? I feel inclined to let the baby suck hers to her heart's content—which I may say, she does ! And she is such a model baby in every other way it seems a pity to interfere with her." 19. "How can I deal with this problem ?

My little boy
of two-and-three-quarters has recently begun to
spit and will
spit in one's face without any warning or
apparent reason.
He did it once before about nine months ago
and then I put
him out of the room, but this time it usually
happens when he
gets into my bed in the morning and then I put
him back into
his bed, which seems to make an effect. He
also does it with
his nurse although he is perfectly happy with
both of us.
Otherwise he is a normal happy child, very
helpful and useful
in his nursery, hanging up his clothes, washing
himself and
so on. Do you think that we should take a
firmer tone and
smack him ? He calls it ' bubbles ' and
incidentally is very
fond of blowing bubbles."